

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name: that I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter claimed and for which a patent is sought in the application entitled:

**PALLET AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE PALLET**

which application is:

the attached application  
(for original application)

application Serial No. PCT/SE99/00792  
filed May 11, 1999, and amended on

(for declaration not accompanying application)

that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification of the above-identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the patentability of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, that I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119, §172 or §365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified on said list any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Application Number	Country	Filing Date	Priority Claimed (yes or no)
9801709-8	Sweden	May 14, 1998	yes

I hereby claim the benefit of Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in a listed prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge my duty to disclose any information material to the patentability of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)

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I hereby appoint John H. Mion, Reg. No. 18,879; Donald E. Zinn, Reg. No. 19,045; Thomas J. Macpeak, Reg. No. 19,292; Robert L. Seas, Jr., Reg. No. 21,092; Darryl Mexican, Reg. No. 23,063; Robert V. Sioan, Reg. No. 22,775; Peter D. Olexy, Reg. No. 24,513; J. Frank Osha, Reg. No. 24,625; Waddell A. Biggart, Reg. No. 24,861; Robert G. McMorrow, Reg. No. 19,093; Louis Gubinsky, Reg. No. 24,835; Neil B. Siegel, Reg. No. 25,200; David J. Cushing, Reg. No. 28,703; John R. Inge, Reg. No. 26,916; Joseph J. Ruch, Jr., Reg. No. 26,577; Sheldon I. Landsman, Reg. No. 25,430; Richard C. Turner, Reg. No. 29,710; Howard L. Bernstein, Reg. No. 25,665; Alan J. Kasper, Reg. No. 25,426; Kenneth J. Burchfiel, Reg. No. 31,333; Gordon Kit, Reg. No. 30,764; Susan J. Mack, Reg. No. 30,951; Frank L. Bernstein, Reg. No. 31,484; Mark Boland, Reg. No. 32,197; William H. Mandir, Reg. No. 32,156; Scott M. Daniels, Reg. No. 32,562; Brian W. Hannon, Reg. No. 32,778 and Abraham J. Rosner, Reg. No. 33,276, my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and request that all correspondence about the application be addressed to SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037-3202.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date September 22, 2000 1/ecd First Inventor Nils-Ake Sternhamn  
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Residence Same as P.O. Address Signature ABE KLEIN

Post Office Address Leksbergsvägen 41, SE-542 44 MARIESTAD, Sweden SEK

Citizenship Swedish

INVENTOR CLAIM FOR  
SMALL ENTITY STATUS

Q61599 PCT/SE99/00792

Each of the undersigned inventors hereby declares that he qualifies as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention described in the specification filed herewith, and with regard to the invention disclosed and claimed in the attached application:

- none of the undersigned inventors has assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed any rights therein, to any person, concern, or organization and is under no obligation by contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights therein to any person, concern or organization, or

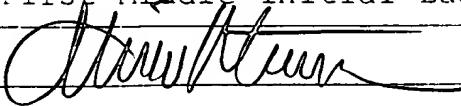
- although at least one of the undersigned inventors has assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed or is under obligation by contract or law, to assign, grant, convey or license rights therein to whose address is

said recipient of said rights is either

- (a) a person who could be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or
- (b) an organization which would qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) and a verified statement from this organization averring to its status as a small business concern will be submitted separately in accordance with 37 CFR 1.27.

Each of the undersigned persons acknowledges his duty to file, in this application, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

Each of the undersigned persons hereby declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Typewritten Name (First - Middle Initial - Last)	Signature (First-Middle Initial-Last)	Date Month-Day-Year
Nils-Ake Sternhamn		09 - 30 - 00